

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Divakaran, et al.

: Art Unit: 2176

Serial No: 09/518,937

: Examiner: M. Nguyen

Filed: March 6, 2000

For: METHOD FOR REPRESENTING AND COMPARING MULTIMEDIA

CONTENT ACCORDING TO RANK

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,

VA 22313-1450

on 10-15-2004

Signature: Andrew J. Curtin

Commissioner for Patents Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Interview Summary

Sir:

This summary is filed in response to a telephone interview on October 6, 2004.

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 are rejected. All rejections and objections are respectfully traversed.

A telephone interview was conducted on October 6, 2004, regarding the non-final rejection dated August 20, 2004. The participants included Examiner Maikhanh Nguyen and Examiner William L. Bashore of the U.S. Patent Office, and applicants' representative Dirk Brinkman, reg. no. 35,460. The applicants' representative is appreciative of the courtesy and cooperation demonstrated by Examiner Nguyen and Examiner Bashore.

Claims 1-13 were discussed. The Examiner rejected claims 1-13 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claim 1 of U.S. Patent 6,546,135, "Method for representing and comparing multimedia content" issued to Lin et al., on April 8, 2003, in view of Lee, et al., (*Querying multimedia presentations based on content*, IEEE Trans. on Knowledge and Data Engineering, vol. 11, no. 3, May/June 1999.

The Applicants argued the following:

- 1. The Examiner's use of Lee as a reference in the double patenting rejection was improper because there is no common assignee between Lee and the Applicants.
- 2. Claims 2-13 were not properly addressed in the rejection.

Agreement was not reached.

Docket No. ATL-042 09/518 937

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any remaining issues and further to expedite passage of the application to issue, if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in connection with the application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0749 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully Submitted, Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories, Inc.

Dirk Brinkman

Registration No. 35,460

201 Broadway, 8th Floor Cambridge, MA 02139 Telephone: (617) 621-7539

Facsimile: (617) 621-7550